

Appl. No. : 10/070,266
Filed : July 19, 2002

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the Claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A gaming machine which includes a display including a plurality of display positions for displaying combinations of symbols; a controller for controlling operation of the machine, the controller including a processor for processing data and displaying selected data on the display; and a selector operable by a player of the machine for enabling the player to select at least one additional feature which can be added to a base game played on the machine such that a first base bet configuration provides eligibility for the base game alone and at least one other bet configuration provides eligibility for the base game enhanced with eligibility for the at least one additional feature, wherein the eligibility for the at least one additional feature is available for multiple values of the base bet.
2. (Currently Amended) The gaming machine of claim 1 in which the additional credit at least one other bet staked by the player is a multiple of a the base bet wagered by the player.
3. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine of claim 2 in which different multiples of the base bet purchase different additional features.
4. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine of Claim 1 in which the selector comprises a plurality of selectors operable by the player to select the at least one additional feature before making the base bet.
5. (Currently Amended) The gaming machine of Claim 1 in which the additional credit at least one other bet staked provides eligibility to a benefit provided by that feature, there being no guarantee that the feature will eventuate merely by having staked the additional credit at least one other bet.
6. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine of Claim 1 in which the additional feature is triggered independently of the base game.

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7. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine of Claim 1 in which the selector enables a player to select a range of additional features to enable the player to tailor the game to the player's requirements.

8. (Currently Amended) The gaming machine of claim 7 in which certain of the additional features are no-cost features while other features require the staking of ~~additional credit at least one other bet~~ by the player.

9. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine of Claim 1, wherein the machine comprises a plurality of games and wherein the selector enables the player to select one of the plurality of games as the base game.

10. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine of Claim 1 in which the selector includes dedicated buttons on a keypad of the controller.

11. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine of Claim 1 in which the selector includes touch sensors of a touch screen of the display.

12. (Currently Amended) A gaming machine which includes a display including a plurality of display positions for displaying combinations of symbols;

a controller for controlling operation of the machine, the controller including a processor for processing data and displaying selected data on the display; and

a selector operable by a player of the machine for enabling the player to select at least one additional feature which can be added to a base game played on the machine such that a ~~first base bet configuration~~ provides eligibility for the base game alone and ~~at least one other bet configuration~~ additional credit staked provides eligibility for the base game enhanced with eligibility for the at least one additional feature, ~~an~~ the additional credit being staked by the player in order to be eligible for the at least one additional feature being a fixed amount multiplied by a bet wagered per line or per draw.

13. (Currently Amended) The gaming machine of Claim 12 wherein the selector includes a plurality of selectors operable by the player to select the additional feature required before making ~~a~~ the base bet.

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14. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine of Claim 12 in which the additional credit staked provides eligibility to a benefit provided by that feature, there being no guarantee that the feature will eventuate merely by having staked the additional credit.

15. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine of Claim 12, wherein the additional feature is triggered independently of the base game.

16. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine of Claim 12, wherein the selector enables a player to select a range of additional features to enable the player to tailor the game to the player's requirements.

17. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine of Claim 16 in which certain of the additional features are no-cost features while other features require the staking of additional credit by the player.

18. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine of Claim 12, wherein the machine comprises a plurality of games and wherein the selector is adapted to enable the player to select one of the plurality of games as the base game.

19. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine of Claim 12, wherein the selector includes dedicated buttons on a keypad of the control means.

20. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine of Claim 12, in which the selector includes touch sensors of a touch screen of the display.

21. (Currently Amended) A gaming machine which includes
a display including a plurality of display positions for displaying combinations of symbols;
a controller for controlling operation of the machine, the controller including a processor for processing data and displaying selected data on the display; and

a plurality of selectors operable by a player of the machine for enabling the player, prior to making a base bet, to select a range of additional features to be added to a base game played on the machine to enable the player to tailor the game to the player's requirements, a first selection providing eligibility for the base game alone and at least one other selection providing eligibility for the base game enhanced with eligibility for at least one additional feature, wherein the eligibility for the at least one additional feature is not dependent on a single value of the base bet.

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Please add the following new Claims.

22. (New) The gaming machine of Claim 1, wherein the particular value of the base bet comprises a maximum allowed value of the base bet.

23. (New) A gaming machine which includes
a display including a plurality of display positions for displaying combinations of symbols;
a controller for controlling operation of the machine, the controller including a processor for processing data and displaying selected data on the display, the gaming machine being arranged to play a game in which a player stakes a wager on the outcome of the game and, if a predetermined winning event occurs, the machine awards a prize, the game playable on the machine comprising a base game having a multiplicity of possible outcomes, at least one of the possible outcomes being a feature outcome, the feature outcome only being available to be awarded when a feature selecting wager has been staked on the base game; and
a selector operable by the player to enable the player to stake the feature selecting wager and thereby be eligible to be awarded the feature in the event of a feature outcome occurring in the base game.